

The Monthly A·C·E

*The Official Bulletin of the Association of Clandestine
Radio Enthusiasts*

Since 1982 • November 2002



What are you most thankful for this month?
Atomic energy or happy mountain munchkins????

The Managing Editor's Page

Harry Helms

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If you're interested in receiving this month's bulletin in .PDF, drop me an e-mail at the address above. You will need the Adobe Acrobat reader to read the .PDF version of this bulletin, and the total file size will be about 860K (in other words, don't ask for it if you have a 28.8 modem!). But the .PDF version will let you see the QSLs and photos in this month's bulletin in glorious color!

If you'd like to get up-to-the-minute news of pirate radio activity, why not subscribe to the ACE pirate radio mailing list? There's nothing like getting a top on a pirate station while it's still on their air! To subscribe, just send a BLANK e-mail to PirateRadio-subscribe@topica.com. Since the list is managed by yours truly, you know it will be a class act all the way!

Remember that I'll be relinquishing my duties as ACE publisher at the end of December. Are you interested in taking over? If so, drop John Arthur a line! It only takes a few hours each month, and you get a copy of the bulletin before anyone else does!

We're in the DX season now! Be sure to report your DX to your ACE editors!

73,

HARRY

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



- ✓ Audio Clips
- ✓ Photos
- ✓ QSLs
- ✓ The ACE
- ✓ Chat
- ✓ News
- ✓ The Grapevine
- ✓ Over 1000 Links

DIALOGS November 2002

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(Next deadline for submissions: November 18th, 2002)

LATE LOGS

Nada

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Zilch

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Betty Boo Radio (*Providence*)

- 10/01/02, 0121, 6952A – mx – "The Boogeyman," "I'm A Ghost." Hosted by Keelo Verndigh and featuring a visit from Vijay Nehru. (*AF 433*)
- 10/16/02, 2310+, 6950A – a repeat of the show. (*JS-NE*)

Captain Morgan (*FRN*)

- 09/23/02, 0029-0058, 6950A – mx – Garth Brooks, Rupert Holmes. (*WS-TN 433*)
- 09/25/02, 0040-0050, 6950A – mx – Steve Miller Band. (*JS-NE*)
- 10/06/02, 0205-0229, 6951A – "Celebrity Jeopardy" with Sean Connery, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Robin Williams. (*JS-NE 222*)
- 10/17/02, 0114-0146, 6950A – mx – Hendrix, Rolling Stones. More "Celebrity Jeopardy" with Sanford & Son excerpts. (*JS-NE*)
- 10/18/02, 0216-0230+, 6950A – Hallowe'en FX with the theme from "The Addams Family." (*JS-NE 222*)

Indira Calling (*Providence*)

- 09/22/02, 0207-0216, 6953A – mx – Indian. (*WS-TN 343*)
- 09/26/02, 0254, 6925A – repeat of a recent show. (*AF 433*)

KPSA (*Lone Pine*)

- 10/05/02, 0221-0250, 14980A – mx – Rock. KPSA simulcast with KMUD down on 6925. Talk and music mix, OM annnr "how ya doin'?" YL and OM heard at 0232. Also spot of some kind at 0240. Very weak signal subject to fading, assume it ended at 0250. (*MT-WI 111*)

Lounge Lizard Radio (*Providence*)

- 09/27/02, 0033, 6925A – mx – "Volare," "Spanish Eyes," theme from "Thunderball." Program #3 bringing you the best of lounge music. (*AF 433*)
- 09/29/02, 0212-0245*, 6953A – mx – Tom Jones, Sammy Davis, Jr., Mel Torme. Repeat of 09/27? (*AF 322*) (*WS-TN 444*) (*JS-NE 434*)
- 09/29/02, *0310-0345*, 6953A – mx – Sammy Davis, Jr. "Volare" IS. Program #3 coming to you from the Zeller Lounge at a Cleveland, OH, motor inn. ID cameo by Bram Stoker. (*GZ-OH 353*)

Partial India Radio (*Providence*)

- 09/30/02, 0212-0236*, 6952A – Show #6 with a mention of nuclear weapons, "touch me" and the "Top Ten Things Not To Say To Bozo," "Pushy Punjab" and poking fun at Radio Pakistan. They say to only QSL them if you are a QSL Whore. (*AF 422*) (*WS-TN 444*) (*JS-NE 333*)

Radio Azteca (*Belfast*)

- 09/25/02, 0156-0225*, 6953A – Show #39 featuring Top 10 Top 10 lists, listener's mailbag and Bram's Storytime. (*JS-NE 333*)
- 09/26/02, 2314, 6925A – mx – "William Tell Overture," "Banana Boat Song," "Vatican Rag." Show #2 with the best autopsy music you can hear on shortwave. (*AF 433*)
- 10/18/02, 0035, 6953A – many outtakes, "Where does bratwurst come from," Bram and certain sexual practices. (*AF 423*)

Radio Clandestine (*None*)

- 10/18/02, 0127-0215, 6925A – mx – Frank Zappa, "Love Is The Drug," "Dirty White Boy." Host R.F. Burns with a story about a cautious couple. (*Pse QSL JS-NE 333*)

Radio Free Euphoria (*Belfast*)

- 10/15/02, 2349-0108*, 6953A – Christmas show featuring tunes such as "Did You Log What I Logged" and "George Zeller Got Run Over By A Reindeer." Ads for Maharishi Charms and the Santa hotline for adults. (JS-NE)
- 10/17/02, 0223-0239*, 6953A – a replay of the show of 10/15 including "The Hanukkah Song." (JS-NE)

Radio Pigment International (Belfast)

- 09/30/02, 0138-0201, 6950A – mx – African, Jamaican, Blues. (WS-TN 242)
- 10/20/02, 2340-2355*, 6950A – mx – Reggae. Talk from deep-voiced OM. (CL-MA 222)
- 10/21/02, 0052-0138*, 6925A – mx – "The Time Is Right," Jefferson Airplane. (AF 221)(CL-MA 333)

The Voice Of The Runaway Maharishi (Belfast/Providence)

- 09/28/02, 2341-0029*, 6925A – "Maharishi's Neighborhood" on the PBN, a visit with Mister McTouchyfeely, Ads for Whisker Biscuits and Cowboy Dick ice Cream. (AF 423)(JS-NE 433)

WHYP (Providence)

- 09/21/02, 0320-0340*, 6953A – Regis Brownyard hosting "Who Wants To Be A Pirate Radio Operator?" Contestant BJ with his good friend the fab marvy George Zeller in the audience. (RD-PA).

WMOE (wmoef955@yahoo.com)

- 10/18/02, 0002, 6953A – a show dedicated to Captain Ganja. "Hash pipe," "Be Like That," "Let Me Blow Your Mind." (AF 423)

WMPR (FRN)

- 10/02/02, 0139-0226+, 6955A – mx – Techno/Dance/Bowie. Muddy audio. (JS-NE 433)
- 10/05/02, 0128-0131, 6955A – mx – techno. Noisy. (AF 322)(MT-WI 111)
- 10/05/02, *2010-2056*, 6955A – mx – rock. OM/YL IDs, some kind of bird chirping noise audible amongst the IDs. No drop given, at QRT said (W)MPR stands for "Micro Power Radio." (GZ-OH 454)
- 10/06/02, 0015, 6955A – mx – Techno. Very noisy. (AF 422)
- 10/07/02, 0125, 6955A – mx – Techno/dance. "Dance Party." (AF 544)
- 10/08/02, 0007+, 6955A – WMPR "Dance Party." (JS-NE)
- 10/10/02, 0132-0217*, 6955A – mx – Techno. "Dance Party." (AF 433)(JS-NE)
- 10/12/02, 0157, 6955A – mx – Fat Boy Slim. Tortured puppy ID. (AF 433)
- 10/12/02, *2352-0038*, 6955A – mx – Techno. "Dance Party." Very strong. (AF 544)(GZ-OH 454)
- 10/14/02, *0157-0240+, 6955A – mx – Techno. OM/YL IDs "WMPR-6955." (GZ-OH 454)
- 10/15/02, *0157-0240+, 6955A – mx – Techno. OM/YL IDs "WMPR-6955." (GZ-OH 454)
- 10/16/02, 0025-0038*, 6955A – mx – light Jazz, electronic version of "Silent Night," possible Mannheim Steamroller? (JS-NE 434)
- 10/17/02, 0114-0118+, 6955A – mx – Electronica. (JS-NE)
- 10/18/02, 0054+, 6955A – mx – Techno, Electronica inc. "Ball Of Confusion." "This is a Journey into Sound," "Just Can't Get Enough," yelping puppy ID. Different OM doing one of the station IDs. (AF 553)(JS-NE 444)
- 10/19/02, 2100, 6955A – mx – "Right Here, Right Now," "Shanti." Puppy ID and "You're listening to WMPR – Micro Powered Radio!" (AF 423)
- 10/21/02, 0145-0210+, 6925A – mx – "Voo-Doo Believe," "Love And Pain." IDed as "WMPR Dance Party." (AF 533)(CL-MA 333)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

Laser Hot Hits?

- 09/21/02, 0345-0410, 6219A – mx – Rock. OM anncr between cuts, mention of "Laser" at 0347 and a phone number given at 0400. (RD-PA)

UNID

- 09/27/02, 2219-2230*, 27555U – mx – Lynyrd Skynrd. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 10/05/02, 0010-0048, 6925U(?) – mx – Dance. Some talk, hard to make out. Possibly KMUD. (MT-WI 121)
- 10/16/02, 0237-0241*, 6950A – mx – Steve Miller. (Pse QSL JS-NE)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

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 Al "Lapin" Fansome (AF)
 Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)
 John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)

Woody Smith, P.O. Box 52823, Knoxville, TN 37950 (WS-TN)
 Mark Taylor, 1114 Ellen Avenue, Madison, WI 53716 (MT-WI)
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

TEN (and TWENTY) YEARS AFTER...

1982: The most excellent Kirk Baxter had settled into his post as Loggings editor and made the observation that 10 contributors was okay for the number of members that the club had, but that folks could do better. (I note the 7 contributors this time around and bite my tongue...) Radio Clandestine, The Crystal Ship, The Voice of Syncrom and The Voice of Venus were to be heard, all on AM, all between 7300 and 7450. Looks like there was a lot of QRM in that slice of the spectrum, too. And Lad wasn't long out of diapers...

1992: Sacre Poutine! Kirk was still at the helm, by now the column is "Dialog" and Steve Rogovich is getting ready to assume the editorship of the column. 7415+/- was the watering hole for your friendly neighborhood station operator and USB was creeping into the logs. Anarchy One, EBO Radio (one of He-Man's favorites!) and CSIC were amongst those active. Programming was varied (although the worst of then sounds very similar in content to the worst of today!) A probable programming low was set when EBO broadcast a few tunes by New Kids on the Block.... Interestingly enough, a pirate in the X-band was logged; WRMR on 1620 – I remember hearing these guys myself – nice signal, decent programming, thought they were a legitimate station testing on a new allocation so I didn't bother to make any note of them at all – and missed my one chance to score a QSL from a NA MW Pirate <mutter>...

RAMBLINGS

I had to buy a new vehicle a few weeks ago, cost mucho dinero and I'll be paying for it for a long time yet. Given the fact that I'll be driving it for a long time to come I decided to fit it out with the bells and whistles I'd always wanted. One of the things I'm putting in is one of those new-fangled satellite radio receivers – in this case for the "Sirius" network. This should set me up to get the BBCWS, WRN, NPR and PRJ on the road with no advertising and no pledge breaks. The hardware was pretty cheap as well – all told it'll cost me \$159 installed once I get the rebates back. I'll let you know how well it works once it's all set up and working.

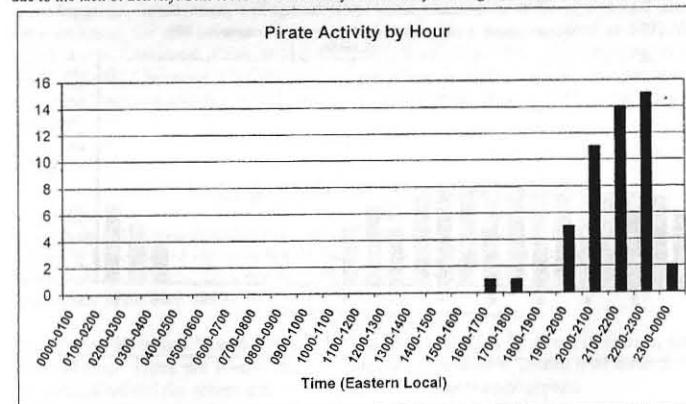
This column goes to press before the Hallowe'en weekend so I can't say what activity was like as yet. Hopefully it'll have continued to be marked by a higher-than-usual level of activity and we'll have gotten to hear some of those Hallowe'en-only stations we all love and know. We'll see.

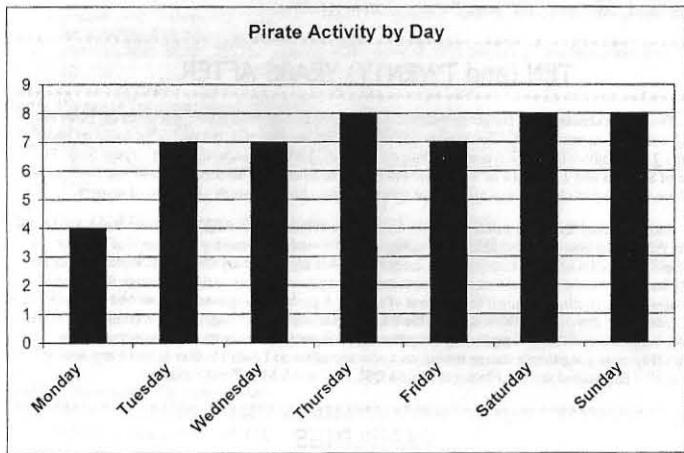
Activity and reports for this month were both below normal levels. Stations and programming featuring Bozo were almost nonexistent but relays of programming from older stations were very much in evidence. I've included the drops that were mentioned in the programming for these rerun stations but I'd say that the chance of getting a QSL card for a report to one of these stations is very low.

Go get those headphones on; the best listening is just getting under way for the year! If you don't, I'll give Bozo your home phone number!

STATISTICS

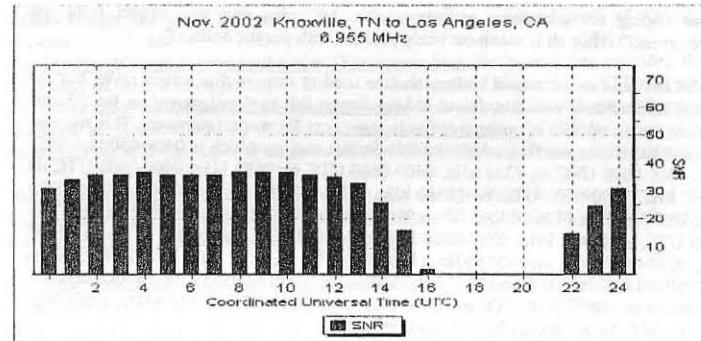
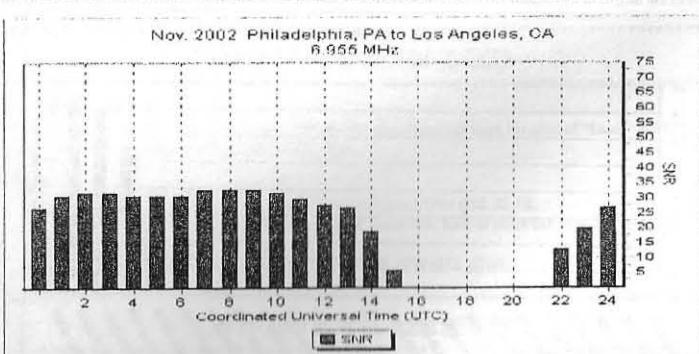
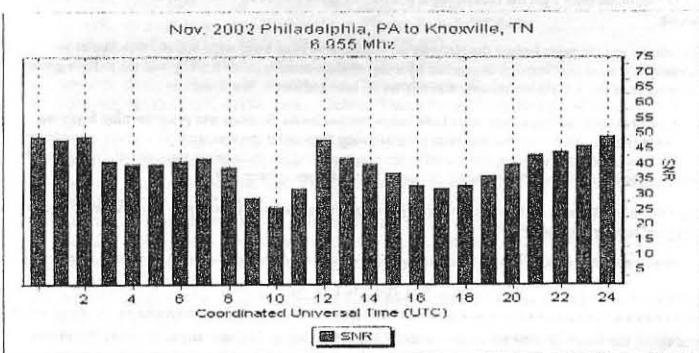
Once again, the Handy-Dandy statistics calculator has been fired up. Not so many data points this month due to the lack of activity. Still looks as if Thursday thru Sunday evenings are the best times to listen.





PROPAGATION

This month's location (for one of our contributors) is Knoxville, Tennessee.



VERIFIED RESPONSE

CHRIS LOBDELL
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NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: November 19th

Poor Chris didn't get any QSL report this month! So why don't you folks send him some for next month???

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2100 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my george@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

L. CEE RECEIVES RADIO SAWA SCREEN SAVER

Our big news this month is that our own ACE member L. Cee reports that he has received a reply to his e-mailed report to Radio Sawa. Although he did not receive a QSL as such, he did receive a Radio Sawa screen saver for his computer. I'll let him describe this new acquisition in his own words:

"The screen saver is a "Radio Sawa" bounce. The letters S A W A are in orange, green, red, and blue. There are several musical notes over the letters. About 6 of these S A W A's bounce around the screen and exit off the screen as new ones appear."

I was hoping for something a little cooler...but what can you expect from the Government?? After all it was most likely paid for with our tax dollars."

He did not send in the e-mail address that he used to acquire this screen saver, but the official Radio Sawa web site, found at <http://www.ibb.gov/radiosawa/> on the internet gives an e-mail address of comments@radiosawa.com for contact purposes. This site also provides the shortwave frequency schedule for the station, which is 0400-0600 on 5965 kHz, 0400-0600 UTC on 7255 kHz, 0400-0600 UTC on 9680 kHz, 0400-0600 UTC on 11670 kHz, 0400-0600 UTC on 15380 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 9660 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 9715 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 9765 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 11820 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 11910 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 11995 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 15205 kHz, 0730-0830 UTC on 15355 kHz, 1700-1800 UTC on 7105 kHz, 1700-2100 UTC on 6040 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 7105 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 9505 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 11825 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 15545 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 6160 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 9620 kHz, 1800-2100 UTC on 11895 kHz.

The Radio Sawa web site also provides a full medium wave and satellite service schedule, in case you have plans to be in the Middle East sometime soon, or in case you have satellite receiving equipment. The web site also provides a live internet feed of the Radio Sawa programming, both in RealAudio or in Windows Media Player format. So, even if propagation is terrible and your receiver is at the repair shop, you should be easily able to listen to this one if you want to.

The station is quasi-clandestine in its nature. It is not exactly a secret that this station is a new Arabic service of the Voice of America, but it is not announced as such on the air. The schedule that we reprinted here off their web site comes from a variety of transmitter sites, some of which we decoded in the August issue of *The ACE*.

Given the announced intentions of the United States to launch a military attack against Iraq, despite the fact that Iraq has not attacked the USA or anybody else for that matter during the last couple of years via military means, Radio Sawa becomes an important quasi-clandestine that we should pay attention to.

In the past, aggressive military actions by countries such as Germany, Japan, and North Korea have always been accompanied by clandestine radio voices of the aggressor nation. Now that the United States has announced its intentions to join this undistinguished list of historically dangerous aggressors, it would be no surprise at all if the extent of clandestine radio broadcasting by the United States will significantly increase during the short run future.

While I am on the subject of the ongoing argument in the United States about whether the USA should start attacking any country that it feels like attacking, as long as it is an election year and as long as the country is in a sharp recession, it has been a significant surprise to me to find that there is a significant degree of opposition to USA aggressive militarism in an otherwise middle-of-the-road place like Cleveland, Ohio. For instance, Mark Dodish, the editor of *Crain's Cleveland Business*, the corporate business newspaper in Cleveland and precisely the opposite of the old *Pravda*, devoted his entire column in the November 14 edition of his newspaper to an assertion that it would be a dangerous and stupid thing for the United States to attack Iraq under the current circumstances. Much of the opposition to President George W. Bush's policies in this matter has been coming from Republicans and business interests. The situation might be different by the time that this issue of *The ACE* arrives in your mailbox, but the whole subject is something that should cause everybody in the USA and elsewhere to think very hard about the policy, military, and economic implications of the situation.

LITTLE STEVE ANDERSON NEWS

If you are interested in the latest news on the search for Steve Anderson of the now-defunct clandestine **KSMR**, other than the continual parodies of Anderson and his now-defunct clandestine that continue to appear on the pirate bands from **United Patriot**

Militia Bingo, one place to check is the web site for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. At the URL of <http://www.atf.treas.gov/wanted/pages/18anderson.htm> the bureau has provided the latest copy of their wanted poster for Steve. On the day that I checked the ATF web site, Steve was listed #3 on the list of nine wanted individuals on their web page. Steve is identified as "Steven Howard Anderson," a.k.a. Steve Anderson. Of the other eight persons on the ATF list, one was listed as unidentified, with the following description:

"Subject fired a handgun at another subject near George Hall Elementary School (in Mobile, Alabama). This Suspect was shot in the Buttocks during the incident. Subject is wanted by ATF for discharging a firearm in a school zone.

All of the wanted individuals on the ATF web site have additional information available in .pdf format for those who want more details. It is not clear if the ATF also thinks that Steve Anderson has a sore rear end, like his unidentified colleague on the ATF most wanted web site profiles. However, the content on Anderson's ATF .pdf file is certainly of interest to those of us in the unlicensed broadcasting DX community, so here it is:

"Anderson is wanted by the Kentucky State Police for Attempted Murder. Anderson is wanted by ATF for violations of Federal explosives laws. Anderson should be considered Armed and Dangerous. Do not try to apprehend Anderson on your own - If you spot Anderson, immediately notify your local law enforcement agency, the Kentucky State Police at (606) 573-3131 or (800) 222-5555 or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms at (888) 283-8477."

There are a couple of unflattering photos of Anderson on the ATF's wanted poster, so you might want to take a look at this web site for yourself.

A DIFFERENT STEVE ANDERSON

Some of you may have noticed that Big Bear Publications, In their own words from their "a small press publishing concern which runs infrequent poetry competitions," has published a poem by a guy named Steve Anderson. Although he announces on their web site that this poem is copyrighted, since ACE is a noncommercial publication, I am going to give both Big Bear Publications and Steve Anderson a little publicity by printing one of his poems here. The subject matter is actually a startling coincidence.

Before getting to the poem, I am going to reprint the legal disclaimer that is associated with the poem, so that all of us are aware of this poem's legal status. "All poems here at the BigBear Publications Working A Way Through site are Copyright © Steve Anderson, 1999. All rights reserved. While it is my pleasure that you download my poems for your own personal enjoyment, you are expressly forbidden to use my work in any form for profit whether for barter, trade, promotion, or any other commercial endeavor without the prior permission in writing of myself, or BigBear Publications.

The web site is located at:

<http://www.bigbear.u-net.com/workingpoem25.htm>

The web site copy has a biography of the poet, saying that "STEVE ANDERSON has been out and proud for more years than he cares to remember. Winner of the coveted school prize for poetry in his last year, he has been writing seriously for publication since 1991. He won the 6th Commonword Poetry Slam with a poem about kd lang's Constant Craving. An appearance on Granada TV frightened the life out of him while, appearing live at a Candlelight Vigil in front of more than 5,000, didn't faze him in the slightest. Steve has been published in a large variety of journals, winners anthologies and established poetry magazines. A non-Catholic, his work has even appeared in *The Catholic Times*. Steve has become quite a recluse of late so there are no poetry readings or workshops scheduled for the immediate future. This shouldn't suggest that Steve has stopped writing. Far from it. He is currently engaged in writing his next collection. Quite

when it will be completed is, so far, in the lap of the gods, but if you would like to be notified when it is ready, please write to Steve at rsvp@bigbear.u-net.com putting "Next Poetry Publication" in the subject line. He lives just outside Rochdale where he plays too many computer games writes games reviews for Gamer Grand Central and poetry reviews for New Hope International. Steve has a couple of rooms in a house owned by his landlord, Brian. He shares his strange existence with two cats, Chester and Kitty Kat and a free-range rabbit [loose in the garden] called Babs. Steve is free, single, available and open to offers...but don't breathe a word to His Holiness."

Obviously this description is of a different Steve Anderson than the guy who is featured on the AFT web site, and I therefore want to make it clear that there appears to be no connection whatsoever between Steve Anderson of Kentucky and Steve Anderson of Rochdale. But, given the striking subject matter of his poem, I am going to reprint it here anyway, as an extremely odd and interesting coincidence.

MOST WANTED MAN by Steve Anderson

I'm craving for a ploddy
with a body that commands
Come to bed. A private dick
with stick, bomber jacket
and well hung ammo pouches.

I want to lay it on with the law
wearing his stiff peak,
hot pressed serge,
with an easy zip
or button fly.

Not a slobby but a bobby
in a smooth thin shirt
with epaulette tongues,
iron thick thighs
and throbbing night-stick.

Cuff me to your cruiser
you big bruiser cop.
Lay down the law
as I lie on the floor
spread-eagled.

AN ARABIC PERSPECTIVE ON RADIO SAWA

Staying on the subject of Arabic language clandestines, even a cursory check of the internet will reveal that Radio Sawa is creating some controversy. Thus, its programming appears not to be the same dry and vanilla stuff that the *Voice of America* has been using up mega-kilowatts for years to bounce off the ionosphere. One interesting exchange about the program content on Radio Sawa is currently up on "The Electric Intifada" web site. This web site, whose slogan is that freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one, describes itself as, "EI is independent of any political, factional, ethnic, or religious affiliation, and bases its view of the conflict on the foundations of universal human rights and international law. The Electronic Intifada condemns all attacks on civilians, regardless of the perpetrators, yet encourages people to examine the structural roots and dynamics of violence in the conflict and the imbalance of power that perpetuates it. The four founders of the project are Ali Abunimah, Arjan El Fassed, Laurie King-Irani, and Nigel Parry." None of these individuals are known in the DX community, so it is interesting to hear them commenting on the Radio Sawa programming.

Like the new Free Radio Network web site, the MECCS/EI Project maintains a means to donate to their web site via credit card right from the web site at

<http://electronicintifada.net/features/articles/020820ali.shtml> or via a street address at 1507 E. 53rd Street, #500, Chicago, IL 60615, USA

Their web site commentary on Radio Sawa is by Ali Abunimah, identified on the web site as "Vice-president of the Arab-American Action Network and a well-known media analyst, Abunimah regularly writes public letters to the media, coordinates campaigns, and appears on a variety of national and international news programs as a commentator on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He is one of the founders of The Electronic Intifada. Ali Abunimah contributed to "The New Intifada: Resisting Israel's Apartheid" (Verso Books, 2001)." Ali Abunimah's commentary on Radio Sawa is interesting enough that I am going to reprint it here. The next seven paragraphs are a verbatim quote from the Electronic Intifada analysis of coverage of the news on Radio Sawa and on the BBC, with the analysis written by Ali Abunimah.

"On August 18, I listened alternately to the BBC and Sawa throughout the day and took notes about how they covered the news. First thing in the morning, the BBC led with news of a report from the Palestinian Ministry of Health documenting a one hundred and twenty five percent increase in child malnutrition in the occupied territories since Israeli began its siege and repression. Sawa led with news that an Israeli "special unit" had arrested Hamas members. Saying nothing about the health report, Sawa made only a vague reference to calls by Palestinian officials for the international community to intervene to "relieve the humanitarian and security situation affecting the Palestinian territories."

For much of the day Sawa seemed to be concerned with damage control for the U.S. campaign against Iraq, prominently featuring denials by unnamed Israeli officials that Israel was trying to goad the U.S. into attacking Baghdad.

In the evening, the BBC and Sawa both reported on the visit to the region of the UN special envoy for humanitarian affairs, Catherine Pertini. While the BBC quoted Pertini as expressing deep concern about the grave situation, Sawa quoted her only as describing announced Israeli measures to relieve the plight of the besieged population as "encouraging." The BBC highlighted a new report from the World Bank that put the number of Palestinians living in extreme poverty at over fifty percent. Sawa said nothing about that but repeatedly included an upbeat item about a planned meeting between Israel's defense minister and the new Palestinian interior minister.

Sawa did report that three Palestinians had been injured in an Israeli "operation" in Khan Yunis, but only the BBC bothered to add that these were civilians, one of them a sixteen year-old girl.

In a late night bulletin, Sawa led with news that Jaweed Ghusein the former director of the Palestine National Fund had gone into exile in London from Gaza, and had told Israeli newspapers that Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat had diverted millions of dollars meant for the Palestinian people into his personal bank accounts. Only the BBC however mentioned that the same newspaper reports claimed that Ghusein had been spirited out of Gaza in a joint operation of Israeli, Jordanian and British intelligence, and that Ghusein had himself been accused since 1991 (before the Palestinian Authority even existed) of embezzling more than six million dollars from PLO funds.

Sawa did include news items that undermine declared U.S. policy, for example that the German Chancellor strongly opposes a U.S. attack on Iraq. Perhaps adding such information, which is in any case well-known to everyone here, helps boost the credibility of the station as an "objective" whole, making it a bit easier to sell the largely sanitized version of the news that Sawa offers.

While just about everyone knows that the U.S. government is behind Sawa, there is something very furtive about the whole affair. Unlike the BBC Arabic Service, or Radio Monte Carlo (the Arabic broadcasts of French radio), both of which have been available here on FM for several years, Radio Sawa's news bulletins do not identify the station's sponsor or where it is broadcasting from. Its anchors do not provide their names. This gives it an exceptionally sterile and anonymous quality that is in complete contrast to its

competitors."

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), L. Cee (QTH unavailable), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by November 15 for the December 2002 *Clandestine Profile*.



Covert Comms

By Tom Severt

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A year ago I first wrote about Ana Belen Montes, the Defense Intelligence Agency analyst who had been charged with spying for Cuba. A few months back I mentioned that she had pleaded guilty to espionage. The latest word in this drama is that Montes was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

On October 16th, Montes appeared in U.S. District Court and accepted the sentence as part of a plea agreement on one charge of conspiracy to commit espionage. The charge could be a capital offense, but prosecutors agreed to the plea agreement in March when Montes agreed to tell investigators everything about her spying activities. She spent six months telling everything she knew. U.S. Attorney Rosco C. Howard Jr. stated that Montes had cooperated fully with federal investigators from several different agencies, but no details of what she had revealed were released.

Montes was moved not by greed, as in the Aldrich Ames case, but was motivated by political feelings. She never received any payment except for expenses. Montes was sympathetic to Cuba and opposed the U.S. government's policy toward it. She told U.S. District Court Judge Ricardo Urbina that she obeyed her conscience rather than the law, and that she believes the U.S.'s policy toward Cuba is cruel and unfair. She also stated that she felt morally obligated to help Cuba defend itself from the U.S.'s policies. However, Urbina, who is of Puerto Rican heritage as is Montes, stated that "if you can't love your country, you should at least do it no harm." He appeared to be unimpressed by Montes' motivation.

U.S. attorney Ronald L. Walutes Jr. was also less than impressed. He filed papers to the court which stated that Montes is "the ultimate hypocrite" who "consciously and deliberately chose to join forces with those who would compromise the national security of this country. She secretly and without remorse systematically compromised classified information relating to the national defense of the entire country. She comes before this court and makes no apology for her deceit and betrayal."

Montes worked for the DIA since 1985 and became the head of the agency's Cuba section in 1992. It's unknown exactly how long she had been spying for Cuba, but the FBI's investigation may have gone back to 1997. Montes was arrested a week after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Montes listened to the "Atencion" V2 station to receive her instructions. She entered the 5F groups into a laptop computer that had the decoding program installed to give her plaintext messages. The messages were recovered from her hard drive. Montes replied to her handlers by calling pager numbers from pay phones and punching in coded messages using the touch tone keys. Information passed to Cuban intelligence included the names of at least four U.S. covert officers inside Cuba, classified photos and documents, and the fact that the U.S. was monitoring several Cuban military installations.

At least Montes may go to prison with a somewhat clean conscience, knowing that nobody perished due to her spying. Luckily, she did not cause the deaths of the four intelligence agents she named, unlike Aldrich Ames. The numerous agents Ames turned over either were killed or disappeared without a trace. And also unlike Ames, Montes didn't do it for greed but for personal political motivation. But whether or not it was worth it is something only Ana Belen Montes can answer for herself. At least she's got the next 25 years to consider it.

Random Transmissions

by Frederick Moe
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This past month I was thrilled to receive a cd-rom called *Shortwave With a Difference*, developed by John Batty and other folks in Australia. The CD-ROM is presented in website format and includes sounds clips from military communications, low band VHF signals, utility stations, spacecraft/satellite signals, and international shortwave broadcasters. Of course the most interesting files to me are the sound clips from pirate stations recorded by John & friends in the land down under.

Searching around and discovering all the pages and files on this CD is a lot of fun. In the pirate radio section alone there are hours of audio clips. The audio quality on many of the clips is not the best but the number and diversity of selections more than compensate. Alfa Lima International, Radio Borderhunter and Radio Geronimo are three Europirate stations represented. There is a wealth of audio segments and a colorful QSL gallery from Alan Maxwell's intriguing station KIPM. Relative newcomers Voice a da Tiki, Mystery Science Radio and WAIR are also heard on the CD, courtesy of relays via KIPM.

In the international broadcast section there are audio files of All India Radio, Radio Singapore International, Radio France International, and dozens of other stations. Also well worth perusing are the numerous articles on antenna design and free radio history and equipment reviews. This CD is a great toolbox for turning people on to the hobby of shortwave listening or for a few hours of exploration and enjoyment. For info on how to obtain this CD with a difference, please visit the website at www.shortwave-with-a-difference.com.

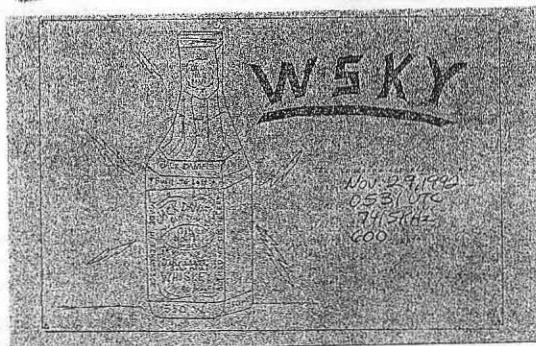
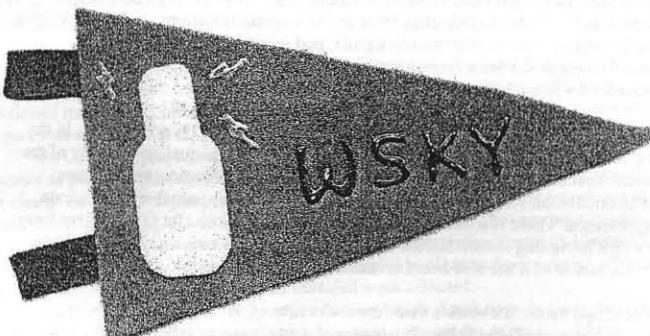
My vote for best new station of 2002 . . .

I know it's only November but already media hacks—I mean critics—are drying the ink on their "best of" lists for the year. Well, I thought that since the ACE crew is kind enough to loan me some column space, I'll practice the concept of free speech here from time to time. Hey, you're entitled to my opinion! So here's my Roger Ebert impression:

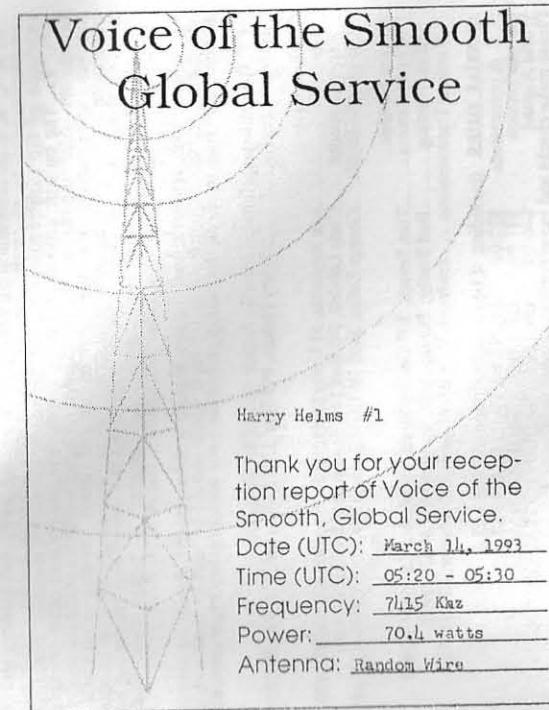
I only heard a handful of new stations this year so far, and without hesitation my vote for all around excellence goes to Voice a da Tiki. Mudda Maxwell created an incredible half hour program that transports listeners to a pristine Hawaiian beach where sun (or moon) worshipers wear little but a smile. The sound of surf and wind washes into ethereal and soulful music by IZ (Israel Kamakawiwo'ole), the Big Man himself, from his CD *Facing Future*. Then Hapa perform the most intense and moving version of *Pride (In the Name of Love)* that I have ever heard. Then it's back to more music by IZ including the energetic anthem *Maui Hawaiian Sup'pa Man* and another stunning version of *Hawaii 78*. Oh yeah bro! By the end of the show I'm one blissful pirate listener. I hope we'll hear more of Voice a da Tiki in 2003.

The Voice a da Tiki QSL that I received for my reception report is a gorgeous work of art. Thank you for the island tunes, Mudda Maxwell! Until next month Happy Thanksgiving & 73's!

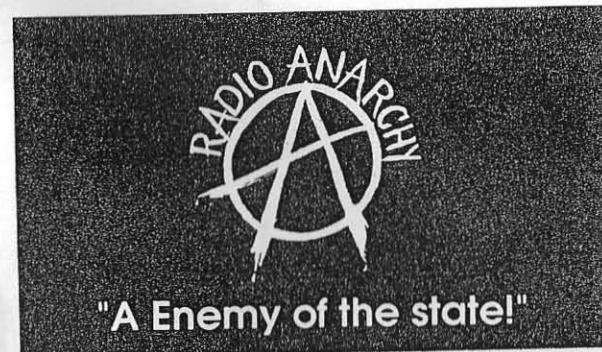
QSL Gallery! (a.k.a. “filler”)



Remember this classic station from the early 1990s?



This is the first, and probably only, QSL from the Voice of the Smooth



Radio Anarchy was a four watt pirate operating on 7407 kHz from near Reno, Nevada

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses. Be sure to check the mailing label for your membership expiration date!

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